

# Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Waiting Times in NHSScotland

Quarter ending 31 March 2016

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## About this release

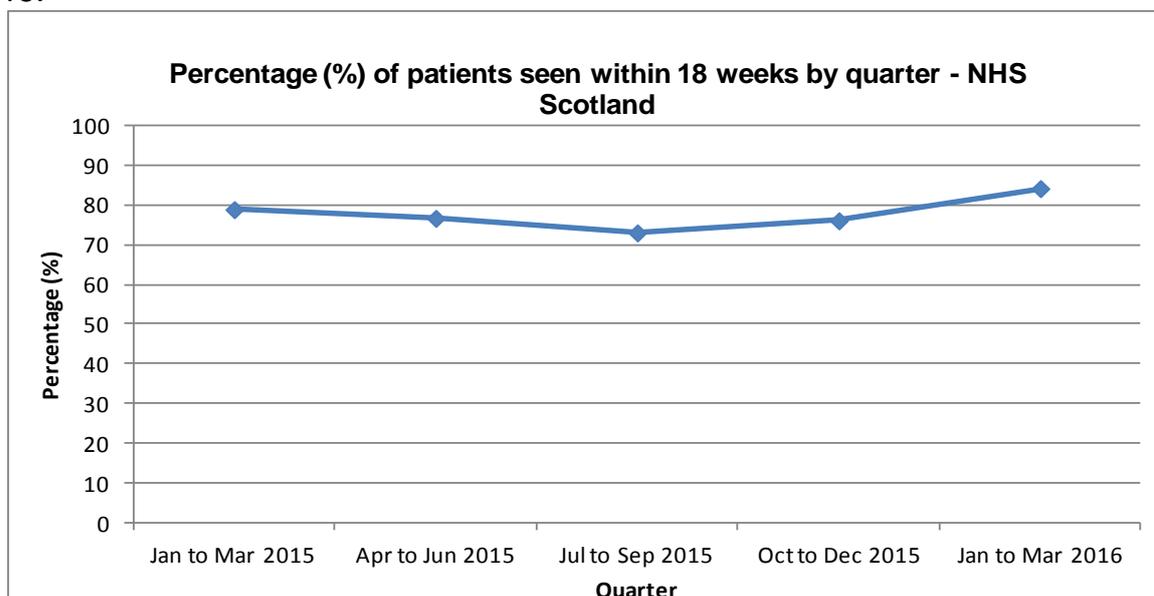
This publication by Information Services Division (ISD), contains information about how long children and young people waited for mental health services provided by the NHS in Scotland. The information is presented at a Scotland and NHS Board level.

The Scottish Government set a standard for the NHS in Scotland to deliver a maximum wait of 18 weeks from December 2014. The standard should be delivered for at least 90% of patients.

## Main Points

During the quarter ending March 2016,

- 4,436 children and young people started treatment at CAMH services in Scotland which is similar to the previous quarter (4,483) and then higher than the same period the previous year (4,269).
- 84.2% were seen within 18 weeks and half started their treatment within eight weeks. This compares with 76.1% in the previous quarter and 78.9% in the same period the previous year.
- The 18 week standard was met by eight Boards (NHS Ayrshire & Arran, NHS Dumfries & Galloway, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, NHS Highland, NHS Lanarkshire, NHS Orkney, NHS Tayside and NHS Western Isles).
- Across Scotland, 11.6% of patients referred to CAMH services did not attend their first appointment, compared to 13.1% in previous quarter and 10.7% for the same period in 2015.



## Background

Following the conclusion work on a tolerance level for CAMH services waiting times and engagement with stakeholders, the Scottish Government determined that the CAMH services standard should be delivered for at least 90% of patients.

The main function of CAMH services is to develop and deliver services for those children and young people who are experiencing the most serious mental health problems. They also have an important role in supporting the mental health capability of the wider network of children's services.

Delivery of good quality CAMH services depends on timely access to healthcare. Early action is more likely to result in full recovery and, in the case of children and young people, minimises the impact on other aspects of their development, such as their education, so improving their wider social development outcomes.

You may also be interested in our other [Mental Health](#) and [Waiting Times](#) publications.

## Contact

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## Further Information

Further information can be found in the [CAMHs Waiting Times in NHSScotland](#) report or on the [CAMHs pages of the ISD website](#)

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